

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Valley Forge National Historical Park Construction Project Updates

Project Management Weekly Update:

March 16th, 2007

Week of March 11th, 2007 – March 16th, 2007

Development of David Walker Farmstead for Montessori Children's School

- a. The Park project was approved on March 13, 2007 by the NPS Develop Advisory Board.
- b. With this approval, the Park and the Montessori School will proceed with the construction phase of the project.

PA Route 23:

- a. The first phase of major road improvements and utility alignment began in the park on **March 4, 2007. Route 23 will be closed to traffic and detoured through the park from 9:00 p.m. through 6 a.m. Monday through Friday beginning March 4, 2007. ***See below for more information*****

Welcome Center Tent Enclosure (Future Interpreters' Workstations)

- a. The Visitor Services move from IFO to the new offices in the tent enclosure has begun. The move should be complete by the 3rd week in March.

Lead Abatement in Buildings on Horseshoe Trail

- a. Collaboration with park maintenance and safety personnel will continue for this project.
- b. Historic fabric was identified and special work procedures were formalized to complete this project

Structural Stabilization of Knox's Quarters

- a. Coordinated the format and transfer of the drawings and specifications between A/E

and business services at VAFO. These will then be sent to the contracting officer at Independence National Historical Park. Contract award is expected by March 31, 2007.

Trolley Tour

a. Accessibility requirements have been researched for a new park trolley tour and the interpretation sites it is to visit. A new trolley has been purchased and will be delivered late in the spring.

Work Plan for week of March 18th through March 24th, 2007

Structural Stabilization of Knox's Quarters

a. The actual work should commence by the end of March. The first phase of work will be twelve weeks in duration. The phase II work will be eight weeks duration.

b. Structural repairs to the second floor will be completed. c. Interior finishes will be repaired and painted.

Administrative Building and Auditorium HVAC Replacement

a. Scope of work and government cost estimations will be completed.

b. Contracting for this project will begin; this project will be contracted through the Independence NHP contracting offices.

Washington's Headquarters:

a. Remaining punch list items for Phase I (reseeding the historic landscape and the realignment of 30ft of walkway) will be completed in the spring due to current weather conditions.

Inner Line Drive and Parking lot removal:

a. 17,000 linear feet of road material has been cleaned from the Historic Hand Laid Stone Gutters and damaged or missing stones were reset. Due to cold weather conditions, work has been postponed for a later date (spring).

*****ROAD CLOSURES AND DETOURS*****

West Inner Line along with Inner Line Spur will remain closed due to unsafe conditions.

Inner Line Drive will be CLOSED and will remain closed until the gutter work is finished and the road surface has been milled down. The closure will be from the intersection of Valley Forge Road (RT 23) to Gulph Road this includes Inner Line Spur Road, and from Gulph Road to Artillery Park Picnic Area. The reason for this closure is that in many places along the Inner Line where the Gutters have been cleaned there is as much as a 6" drop off from the road surface to the gutter. This drop-off presents a safety hazard to vehicles. Inner

Line will also be closed to pedestrians and bicycle traffic. The machinery that is being used presents a hazard to visitors.

Pennsylvania State Route 23 (“Valley Forge Road”): The first phase of major road improvements will begin in the Park on **March 4, 2007**. **Route 23 will be closed to traffic and detoured through the park from 9:00 p.m. through 6 a.m. Monday through Friday beginning March 4, 2007.** The period of construction may last until August, 2007. The road closure will be from the intersection of RT 23 “Valley Forge Road” and County Line Road to the intersection of RT 23 and Richards Road. The detour will be clearly identified with directional signs as well as traffic control flagging personnel.

This road closure will allow the Utility Companies for water, electric, gas and telecommunications to relocate their equipment within the new utility corridor. This utility corridor realignment is required because of the realignment of RT 23 from County Line road to Richards’s road. This is the first phase of a much larger PennDot construction project which will rebuild the Trooper Road Bridge crossing the Schuylkill River, widen PA Route 422 in both directions and improve the on and off ramps on RT 422 at Valley Forge and Trooper roads.